

BEFORE THE ARTZONALOGRIPORATS DOCKETED

WILLIAM A. MUNDELL Chairman JIM IRVIN Commissioner

MARC SPITZER Commissioner

AUG n 6 2001

DOCKETED BY

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION

OF OWEST CORPORATION F/K/A U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC., FOR APPROVAL OF A LOCAL INTERCONNECTION

AGREEMENT WITH AFFINITY NETWORK, INC.

DOCKET NOS. T-01051B-01-0472 T-02664A-01-0472

DECISION NO. 63899

ORDER

10 Open Meeting

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July 24 and 25, 2001

Phoenix, Arizona

12 BY THE COMMISSION:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. On June 11, 2001, Owest Corporation ("Qwest") f/k/a U S WEST Communications, 15 Inc., filed an application for approval of an Interconnection Agreement between Qwest, Affinity 16 Network, Inc. ("Affinity"). The term of the Agreement shall be effective upon Commission 17 approval and remain in effect until June 30, 2003. Upon expiration, the agreement shall remain in 18 force and effect until terminated by either party on one hundred sixty (160) days written notice. 19 The Agreement governs the terms and conditions under which Qwest will offer Interconnection 20 services to Affinity.
- 21 The Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("1996 Act") directed incumbent local 2. 22 exchange carriers to make their networks available for Interconnection and Resale by new entrants 23 to the local exchange market. The 1996 Act provides for Interconnection and Resale agreements 24 to be concluded by voluntary negotiation.
- 25 This Agreement between Qwest and Affinity was voluntarily negotiated, without 3. 26 resort to arbitration.

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- Under the terms of the Agreement, Qwest will provide specified local exchange 2 services for Interconnection, Resale, Collocation and Unbundled Network Elements to Affinity. 3 Generally, Owest services will be made available to Affinity for resale at a twelve (12) percent 4 discount for residential customers and an eighteen (18) percent discount for business customers.
- 5. According to the 1996 Act and Commission Rule, the Commission must approve 6 voluntarily negotiated Interconnection and Resale agreements, if their provisions are non-7 discriminatory and in the public interest.
- Staff has reviewed the Agreement and finds it to be non-discriminatory and in the 6 9 public interest. Owest is offering the same terms and conditions of the Agreement to all other 10 interested parties. The Agreement is in the public interest because it will act to further competition 11 in the local exchange market in Arizona.
- 7. Since there are no grounds for rejection of the Agreement pursuant to Section 13 252(e)(2)(A) of the 1996 Act, Staff has recommended that the Commission approve the 14 Interconnection Agreement between Qwest and Affinity.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

- Qwest is an Arizona public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV, 1. 17 Section 2, of the Arizona Constitution.
- 2. The Commission has jurisdiction over Affinity and over the subject matter of the 19 Application.
- 3. The Commission, having reviewed the Application and Staff's Memorandum has 21 determined that the Resale Agreement negotiated between Qwest and Affinity meets the 22 requirements of Section 252(e)(2)(A) of the 1996 Act which governs the approval of voluntarily-23 negotiated agreements and is in the public interest.
- 4. The Commission maintains jurisdiction over the subject matter of the Agreement 25 and Amendments thereof, to the extent permitted pursuant to the powers granted the Commission 26 by the Arizona Constitution, Statutes, Commission Rule, and the 1996 Act and the Rules 27 promulgated thereunder.

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 1 SERVICE LIST FOR: Qwest Corporation and Affinity Network, Inc.
 2 DOCKET NOS. T-01051B-01-0472 and T-02664A-01-0472
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